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1636

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: *DE JONG et al.*

Serial No.: 10/086,745

Filed: February 28, 2002

Confirmation No.: 8781

For: *METHODS FOR DELIVERING
NUCLEIC ACID MOLECULES
INTO CELLS AND ASSESSMENT
THEREOF*

Art Unit: 1636

Examiner: Unassigned

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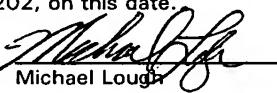
EV 175671957 US

Date of Deposit October 28, 2002

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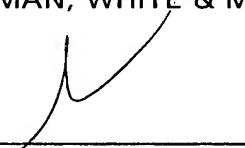
Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a Preliminary Amendment for filing in connection
with the above-identified application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees that may
be due under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16-1.17 in connection with this paper or
with this application during its entire pendency to Deposit Account
No. 50-1213. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,
HELLER, EHRMAN, WHITE & McAULIFFE LLP

By:



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Michael Lough

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Dear Sir:

Preliminary to examination of the above-captioned patent application entry of the following amendment is respectfully requested.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows (a marked up copy of the amended specification is attached to this Amendment):

Please replace the paragraph on page 4, lines 23-29, with the following:

The delivery methods provided herein may also be used to deliver large nucleic acid molecules to a target cell *in vitro*, which is then introduced into an animal subject, in particular human subjects, such as may be done, for example, in a method of *ex vivo* gene therapy. Thus, also provided herein are methods of *in vivo* and *ex vivo* gene therapy using the methods for delivering large nucleic acid molecules into cells as provided herein.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 15, through page 9, line 4, with the following:

In particular embodiments, the methods of monitoring delivery and expression of a nucleic acid molecule include the steps of: introducing labelled nucleic acid molecules that encode a reporter gene into cells;